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Letter dated 19 August 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have been instructed by my Government to lodge the strongest protest at the terrorist attack at the offices of the Committee of the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for Cooperation with the United Nations Mission in Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia, in Pristina, which amounts to a flagrant violation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999 and the non-implementation of the mandate by the Kosovo Force (KFOR).

On 18 August 2000, at about 9.30 a.m., ethnic Albanian terrorists planted an explosive device in the building housing the Committee of the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for Cooperation with the United Nations Mission in Kosovo and Metohija in which, at the time of the attack, there were 20 Committee employees. The building, housing also the offices of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and allegedly provided security by KFOR round the clock, was severely damaged.

The attack represents yet another act of aggression against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and its sovereignty and territorial integrity, as well as a heinous act of terror, the provenance of which is in the deliberate campaign of the United States Administration which has put the United Nations mission under its tutelage and outside the control of the Security Council. It is evident that the overt collaboration of the representatives of the international mission with terrorists and separatists continues.

Only four days after the armed attack by over 1,000 heavily armed members of KFOR on the civilian population of Kosovska Mitrovica and the military occupation of "Trepca", as well as the vandal demolition and shutdown of the only remaining Serbian-language media in Kosovo and Metohija, the Pristina newspaper "*Jedinstvo*" and the Zvecan Radio "S", the ethnic Albanian terrorists continued their reign of terror. There is no doubt that they have understood the occupation of "Trepca" by KFOR and UNMIK as their victory and the defeat of Serbs and are now attempting to cut off all links of the remaining Serbs with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and its constituent Republic of Serbia.

This crime provides also eloquent proof of the existence of the concept and strategy aimed at systematically violating Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and at ethnically cleansing the remaining Serbs, Muslims, Roma, Goranci, Turks,

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Egyptians and other non-Albanians by rendering support to separatism and terrorism. I recall that 1,036 persons, primarily Serbs, were killed on the KFOR and UNMIK watch, 960 kidnapped and 360,000 expelled. As a consequence, the United Nations mission in Kosovo and Metohija has lost its purpose, wherefore it is necessary to call off its presence in southern Serbian province which is a part of the sovereign territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Enclosed herewith is the statement of the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on the event.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vladislav **Jovanovic**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex to the letter dated 19 August 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Federal Government

In the wake of today's heinous terrorist attack against the seat of the Committee of the Federal Government for Cooperation with the United Nations in Pristina, the Federal Government assessed that this is yet another act of aggression against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, its official representatives and its sovereignty and territorial integrity. This criminal attack was carried out at 9.30 a.m., by using a bomb of high destructive power at a time when in the seat of the Committee, located in the centre of Pristina, there were 20 Committee members and employees, performing their regular duties. The explosion caused the devastation of the building, installations and substantial material damage.

The Federal Government condemns in the strongest terms this blatant terrorist attack, which occurred only four days after the armed attack of over 1,000 fully armed KFOR soldiers against the peaceful residents of Kosovska Mitrovica, an armed occupation of the Shareholding Corporation "Trepca", as well as the barbaric demolition and shutting down of the only remaining media in the Serbian language — "*Jedinstvo*" daily and Radio "S". This confirms that the escalation of terrorism and the usage of armed force against peaceful population, institutions of civil society and official State representative offices is an integral part of the scenario of a new phase of intimidation and ethnic cleansing through the cooperation of Albanian terrorists and forces under the United Nations mandate.

The Federal Government recalls that, under the auspices of UNMIK and KFOR, during the period of over a year, 1,038 persons were killed, 960 were abducted, while 360,000 Serbs, Roma, Muslims, Goranci, Turks and Egyptians were expelled by terror. These unthinkable mass crimes testify that the Security Council, regardless of its authority under the Charter of the United Nations, has no control over the forces and representatives formally under its mandate, but that these forces, representatives and Albanian terrorists in Kosovo and Metohija are controlled exclusively by the United States Administration. It thus degrades the Security Council, reducing it to an instrument of its hegemonism and the policy of fait accompli, which brings about unforeseeable consequences to the future of international relations.

The Federal Government emphasizes that the mission of the United Nations in Kosovo and Metohija has, through pressures of the United States Administration, been transformed into an ally of Albanian separatism and terrorism, a lever for ethnic cleansing, an instrument of the destabilization of this part of Europe, and reiterates its position that, in the interest of the protection of the reputation of the United Nations, of peace and stability, security of citizens and peaceful political solution, such mission of the United Nations be terminated.

Belgrade, 18 August 2000